

**VOLUME 07** 

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# Shooting at Illinois university leaves five students dead

Patrick Yeagle/Chicago Tribune/MCT

Emergency personnel move an injured person out of Neptune Hall, a residence hall at Northern Illinois University on Thursday, Feb. 14,, in DeKalb, Ill. A man opened fire with a shotgun and a handgun, wounding several people before apparently killing himself, authorities said.

NIU senior describes scene, response

ANDREA BARBE ASST. FEATURES / A&L EDITOR

Northern Illinois University is still in shock after a gunman opened fire on campus Thursday afternoon, killing five students and wounding 16 more before lethally shooting himself.

Authorities said former graduate student Steven Phillip Kazmierczak walked into Cole Hall around 3 p.m. on Feb. 14 with two handguns and a shotgun hidden in a guitar case. Witnesses said Kazmierczak came into the lecture hall wearing black and started shooting randomly while on the auditorium stage.

NIU President John G. Peters confirmed that the 27-year-old graduate student in sociology had been enrolled at NIU but left in spring 2007. Kazmierczak was enrolled in the school of social work at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and had no police record, officials said.

NIU Senior Jarod Bierman was on campus that day and had left just moments before the shooting started.

"I was eating lunch between classes at a restaurant close to Cole Hall, and as I left, lots of police began arriving on campus," Bierman said. "They were establishing a perimeter around some of the buildings. Someone around me asked a cop what the problem was and if certain buildings were closed, but the officer couldn't give any details at the time, so I figured someone had made another threat against NIU or something. Everyone was freaked out, trying to call people on their cells but no one could get through."

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# deans, vice chancellor

TAYLOR MULLER News Editor

The searches for two university deans and a senior vice | bomb threat. chancellor are coming to a close, with the announcement of the finalists selected for deans and a vice chancellor candidate who will be coming back to campus for a second visit.

After this semester, both the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and the dean of the College of Education plan to step down.

Shelton Hendricks, dean of the College of Arts and I time. Sciences, will continue to serve UNO as a professor after a successor is found.

The four finalists for the College of Arts and Sciences are David Boocker, chair and professor in the department of English and journalism at Western Illinois University, Macomb, Ill.; Steven Haggbloom, department head and professor of psychology at Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Ky.; Susan Maher, chair and professor of English at UNO; and Marshall Sundberg, professor of biology at Emporia State University, Emporia, Kan.

College of Education Dean John Langan is retiring in June but will remain at UNO until December 2008 to response on Thursday. Instead, Kosel and Sciences Hall on Thursday. assist with the national accreditation visit.

The four finalists for the dean of the College of Education are Tom Clees, director of special education had searched the building before it was opened at the University of Georgia; Alfredo Cuellar, chair of the educational research and administration at California [Feb.] 14th, and they went through the building," Kaldahl State University-Fresno; Rik D'Amato, director of the Neuropsychology Laboratory at the University of Northern Colorado; and Jill Russell, vice president for strategic planning/executive assistant to the president at Springfield College, Springfield, Mass.

campus during the next few weeks; the visits are expected to be completed by mid-March.

Terry Hynes, one of the four final candidates for senior | fundraiser anyway. vice chancellor for academic and student affairs, was also

# Job search continues for | Valentine's Day bomb threat passes with eerie quiet

SCOTT STEWART EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

TAYLOR MULLER **News Editor** 

Most classes went on as scheduled Thursday, although some instructors had to cancel or move their classes after a The university was notified of

the threat on Jan. 24, when a student reported graffiti discovered in a bathroom in the Arts and Sciences Hall. The graffiti, according to police reports, stated a bomb would detonate on Valentine's Day at an unspecified

Fortunately, the threat did not materialize Thursday.

"We, as it's been reported all along, are operating under the advice of law enforcement," Chancellor John Christensen said. "They've done a very thorough job of helping us prepare for today."

Paul Kosel, assistant manager of Campus Security, declined to comment about the university's redirected reporters to Director of

"The police were in the building prior to opening on said. "There were people in that building from the night before all the way through Valentine's Day to when the building was shut down at about 10 [p.m.]."

Katie Welchans, a graduate student and vice president of the Phi Alpha Theta history honor society, worked at All of the dean candidates will make an official visit to a book sale on the first floor of the Arts and Sciences Hall around noon on Thursday. Welchans said her group was concerned about the threat but decided to go on with the

> "We'd already set it up, but we hadn't decided volunteer See SEARCHES: Page 2 hours, so everyone was concerned," Welchans said. "I really

didn't want to show up today, but I guess I'm an alarmist."

Welchans said she had seen several Campus Security patrols go by, but had not noticed any uniformed officers from the Omaha Police Department.

"I feel fairly safe," Welchans said. "I saw some UNO Campus Security, and it's a little reassuring."

> Kaldahl said he heard that Campus Security officers had been thanked by several people during their patrols.

"People appreciated their presence there and were very supportive of what was going on," Kaldahl said.

Jesse E. Cozad III, a senior also volunteering at the Phi Alpha Theta fundraiser, was not as confident about the security measures. He said he expected to see police dogs after reading an e-mail sent out by Christensen earlier this week.

"The way they were sending out the e-mails made it feel like there would be more [security]," Cozad said. Sharon Hudson, staff assistant for the sociology and anthropology department, said she saw more security than normal, although there were fewer students in the building.

"There was just an intro class with 50 [registered] people, and only 10 students showed up," Hudson said around 1 p.m.

University Affairs Tim Kaldahl, who said law enforcement "This morning it seemed eerily quiet; now it's gotten back to normal."

> Absenteeism, or the threat of it, caused some instructors to cancel classes. Many other teachers moved their classes to other buildings on campus, including the Milo Bail Student Center and Criss Library.

> Mary Reames, an associate professor of history, told the Gateway earlier this week that she planned to conduct her class unless she heard otherwise from the university. However, students' absenteeism changed her plans.

> "I had to cancel class because the students didn't come," Reames said Thursday afternoon.

> Christensen, at the end of his e-mail to the campus community, said "all threats to campus - even scrawled

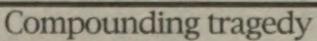
> > See THREAT: Page 3

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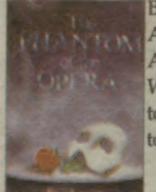
More photos from the Maverick hockey series against Bowling Green.

www.unogateway.com





'Phantom' in Omaha



**Broadway Across** America brings Andrew Lloyd Webber's 'Phan-

tom of the Opera" to an Omaha stage.

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Hockey splits at Civic The Mavericks split a home series against Bowling Green at the Civic Auditorium this weekend.

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#### **UNO hosts NCC meet**

photo by Bill Wend

Officer Ron Hancock searches for

signs of deviant behavior in the Arts

#### The HPER Pool will play host to the four-day North Central Conference swimming and diving meet. page 5

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## University brainstorms for upcoming semesters

TAYLOR MULLER **NEWS EDITOR** 

The sort of discussions that will guide the university for the next 12 months took place Friday during UNO's Strategic Advance forum.

The forum, titled "UNO: Connected to the Community," was attended by more than 200 students, faculty, staff and community members.

UNO has held the strategic planning forum for the past 11 years and involves the UNO Steering Committee as well. The Steering Committee guides discussions and affects the university's goals and focuses for the year.

The main goal of the steering committee is to make UNO recognized as a student-centered metropolitan university.

"They are all centered around the university's strategic plan. In the past couple years, we've taken one of the three goals as a focus area, this time it was the community engagement focus," said Mary Lynn Reiser, chairman of the committee that organized the forum. "It fit really well, because that's going to be the theme of the centennial celebration."

The results of Friday's several hours of discussion groups were presented during a working lunch, with

visibility, collaboration and student engagement being the over-arching issues that came up during the forum.

The groups focused on specific UNO projects, such as the Collaboration Institute, the Holland Computer Center, UNO Neighborhood Coalition and Social Work Practicum Project with Family Service.

Enhancing the visibility of current partnerships, community connections and increasing student engagement were the three main issues, Reiser said.

"Being a metropolitan university gives us a unique chance," Reiser said. "We are in the middle of a community and need to take advantage of the connections we can make to make the education of our students more relevant."

Chancellor John Christensen participated in the discussions, joining others interested in shaping the university.

"We're always interested in having students participate, more staff members and more faculty members. The Strategic Planning forum is once a year. To be a part they should contact the vice chancellor or chancellor's office," Reiser said.

The results from the discussion groups will be compiled and presented to the chancellor and the Steering Committee for use in making university decisions.

From SEARCHES: Page 1

asked to make a second visit to UNO this Monday.

According to a university press release, Hynes will meet with Chancellor John Christensen, deans, faculty, staff and community members. While no candidates have been eliminated, no other candidate was asked to visit campus again.

Hynes earned both her master's degree and doctorate from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The four candidates are Charles D. Hurt, former provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Wisconsin at River Falls; Hynes, dean emerita and professor at the University of Florida's College of Journalism and Communication; Gordon McQuere, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Washburn University in Topeka, Kan.; and Suzanna Ortega, vice provost dean of the Graduate School at the University of Washington.

The search began when UNO's Acting Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Sheri Noren Everts accepted an appointment as vice president for academic affairs and provost at Illinois State University in Normal, III., beginning on July 1.

Hynes will participate in open sessions on campus, which will allow students, faculty, staff and community members to engage in discussions on the position.

## News You Can Use

COMPILED BY SCOTT STEWART **EDITOR-IN-CHIEF** 

Webinar on classrooms in virtual worlds today

Who: Aaron Delwiche, an assistant professor of communication at Trinity University.

What: A webinar entitled "Powerful But Not a Panacea: Virtual Worlds as a Tool for Situational Learning."

Where: Milo Bail Student Center Umonhon Room.

When: Tuesday, Feb. 19, noon to 1 p.m.

Why: To learn about how virtual worlds present challenges to students, instructors and administrators. How: Visit the EDUCAUSE Resources Web site, www. educause.edu/eliweb082 for additional resources. Contact Jay Killion at 554-3758 or at jayjillion@ unomaha.edu for more information.

Music instructor performs recital this evening

Who: Music instructor Wendy Eaton, accompanied by Hal France, former music director of Opera Omaha. What: Recital as part of Resonate Concert Series, featuring a variety of works.

Where: Strauss Performing Arts Center.

When: Feb. 19 at 7:30 p.m.

Why: To listen to works ranging from Debussy to Bernstein and even cabaret songs by William Bolcom. How: Tickets are available at the Strauss ticket booth at \$5 each for general admission, \$4 for students and seniors. For more information, contact Cindy McGann at 554-3247.

Research colloquium discusses stereotypes, internment camps

Who: Charles Johanningsmeier, professor of English, and Creighton's Heath Fryer, professor of American studies.

What: Presentations on "Understanding How Fiction Affected Readers in the Past: Sui Sin Far's 'Sweet Sin' and Chinese-American Stereotypes" and "The Song of the Stitches: A True War Story from the American Homefront."

Where: Milo Bail Student Center Gallery Room.

When: Thursday, Feb. 21, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Why: To hear about how literature can affect racial stereotypes and the experiences of a Caucasian female in a World War II Japanese American interment camp. Refreshments will also be provided.

How: For more information, contact Joe Price at 554-3476.

Spring job fair coming up in March

Who: Career Exploration and Outreach.

What: Semiannual job fair featuring more than 110 employers seeking candidates for open positions and internships.

Where: Milo Bail Student Center Ballroom.

When: Tuesday, March 4, and Wednesday, March 5,

from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Why: To help students interested in applying for jobs

and internships meet potential employers. How: For more information, contact Career Exploration and Outreach at 554-3672 or stop by Eppley Administration Building Room 211.

**Exhibition of French film this Sunday** 

Who: The French-American Cultural Exchange.

What: Free public exhibitions of "Stupeurs et Tremblements," a French comedy / drama that is rated PG-13 and runs 102 minutes.

Where: Eppley Administration Building Auditorium. When: Sunday, Feb. 24, at 2 p.m.

Why: To experience a taste of French culture through film.

How: For more information, visit facecouncil.org or contact Juliett Parnell at 554-3029.

Extended deadline for women's studies award nominations approaches

Who: Members of the women's studies' faculty or staff or students majoring or minoring in women's studies. What: Nominate a student, faculty or staff member for the Mary Ann Lamanna Award for Excellence in Women's Studies. Where: Winners will be announced at the annual

women's studies' luncheon on May 2.

When: The deadline for nominations is Friday, Feb.

Why: To recognize someone who has performed extraordinary service to UNO's Women's Studies program.

How: Send the following to Jody Neathery-Castro in Arts and Sciences Hall Room 275 or via e-mail at jneathery@mail.unomaha.edu: a one- or twopage nomination letter outlining the nominee's accomplishments and relevancy to the program; at least two supporting letters from women's studies students, faculty or staff; the nominee's resume or curriculum vitae; and a representative sample of the nominee's work relevant to the award. For more information, contact Falconer Al-Hindi at 554-3834 or via e-mail at kfacolneralhindi@mail.unomaha.edu.



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# How does one mass shooting beget others?

By SCOTT CANON
McClatchy Newspapers

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (MCT) – With each gunman-on-crowd shooting – Columbine, Virginia Tech, Kirkwood, Westroads mall and now Northern Illinois – the next one becomes more likely.

As the bizarrely awful becomes a recurring tragedy, troubled souls see

how someone else shot his way out of a bind, crime and mental health, specialists say.

One man's burst of twisted glory doesn't exactly prompt a copycat crime, they say. Still, it at least makes more plausible the possibility of grabbing attention, revenge or whatever wild escape shooters hope to find by gunning down the defenseless on their own sprint to suicide.

"The shooter in the news serves as a role model for a kind of behavior that wasn't in the viewer's repertoire a moment earlier," said Park Dietz, a psychiatrist and instructor at the FBI academy at Quantico, Va. "Suddenly, it's brought into his consciousness that there's another way. You can get even."

Theories to explain the shootings run as varied as the killers. Bullied boys obsessed with violence and infamy. A mental illness unchecked. Irrational anger. A life in freefall. Who knows why?

The temptation to find a motivational thread is as tempting as it is illusive.

"Nobody's an expert in this," said Steven Mandracchia, a forensic psychologist at Western Missouri Mental Health Center. "People want answers. People want explanations. But the reality is there are no explanations. There's no way to conceptualize irrational acts."

But those who study crime and the mind say the people who unload their weapons in school cafeterias, college

campuses or the office don't necessarily share much more than tactics. If one mass shooting begets another, it's largely in the way that each bloody rampage makes clear the possibility of another.

Inspiration abounds.

The killing rage by two students at Columbine High School in April 1999 that left 12 dead and 23 wounded in Littleton, Colo., stands out in American culture as the dawning of a frightening age of school shootings. Yet it was preceded a year before by the work of two middle school students who shot to death four girls and a teacher and injured nine more.

Before that came the slaughter by a Chinese graduate student at the University of Iowa in 1991, when he executed five of his academic advisers on a cold November afternoon after he felt cheated out of a physics prize.

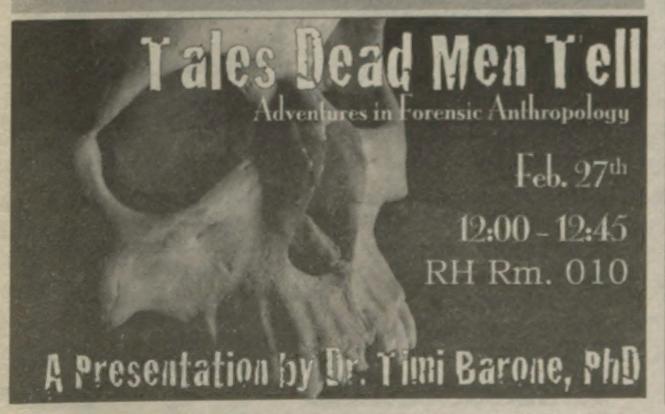
More recently, Seung-hui Cho killed 32 people at Virginia Tech University last spring. A town gadfly opened fire this month at a city council meeting in Kirkwood, Mo., and killed

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graffiti - are taken seriously."

"It is my hope that the person who did this will be caught and prosecuted," Christensen wrote. "We have a great – and open – learning community that brings students, faculty, staff and the public into our buildings. This will not change. We have enjoyed a tremendously safe environment at UNO. We are doing everything possible to maintain that, as well."

Members of the public with any information related to the incident are urged to contact UNO Campus Security at 554-2911 or the Omaha Police Department's Crimestoppers hotline at 444-7867. Tips can be made anonymously to the Crimestoppers hotline.



five. A woman – in the sort of crime usually limited to boys and men – went into a classroom at Louisiana Technical College in Baton Rouge last week and shot two dead.

Then on Thursday, a former graduate student at Northern Illinois University returned to DeKalb after he reportedly had stopped taking medication, crashed into a lecture hall with a shotgun and handguns and opened fire. A previously well-thought-of scholar, he killed five people and

wounded more than a dozen others before fatally turning a gun on himself.

Perhaps what they share in common is what Charles Whitman realized by taking a sniper's perch in the clocktower at the University of Texas' Austin campus in the summer of 1966 and using a rifle to kill 14 people and wound at least 30 more: Unarmed civilians are easily shot down.

Dietz describes that particular type of mass killers as "pseudo commandos." What sets them off can vary widely or remain forever unknown. But Dietz said they tend to share a few characteristics.

He said they suffer from profound depression and a willingness to die (a condition that one in 10 Americans experiences in a lifetime). They have access to weapons (true of about half of U.S. households). And, he said, the adults experience paranoia and the children paranoia or deep anger.

"If it weren't for the anger or paranoia," Dietz said, "they'd simply kill themselves."

Instead, they blitz their way out of the world taking down their perceived enemies and, sometimes, anybody else caught in range. Their shoot-'em-up endings become more likely when their mental crises overlap media coverage of some other lost soul's carnage, Dietz said.

That's why they seem to come in bunches, and he said news coverage makes things worse. Dietz argues that electronic media ought to limit their coverage to the region of the crime and to the facts of the crime.

Newspapers and magazines, he said, make more killings more likely when they saturate their pages in the aftermath with emotional retelling of the deed.

Yet public interest in such events continues.

Neil Henry, dean of the graduate journalism school at the University of California-Berkeley, said news media need to

"regard news as news."

"We live in a culture that has so much sensationalism ... and that becomes a problem," he said. "But when five people get killed by somebody who breaks into a classroom, it's a big story that people have a right to know about."

Scott Strazzante/Chicago Tribune/MCT

Northern Illinois University graduate students Megan Miller of Caledonia, right, and Theresa Blank of Cincinnati, Ohio, comfort each other after placing a wreath at the NIU Veterans' Memorial in honor of shooting victim Julianna Gehant in DeKalb, Ill. on Friday, Feb. 15.

#### Guns on campus

Recent fatal shootings at U.S. colleges and universities:

#### 2008

- 1 Northern Illinois University Feb. 14 Killed: 6, including gunman
- 2 Louisiana Technical College Feb. 8 Killed: 3, including gunwoman

Wounded: 16



#### 2007

- 3 Louisiana State University Dec. 13 Killed: 2
- 4 University of Memphis
  Oct. 1
  Killed: 1
- 5 Delaware State University Sept. 21 Killed: 1 Wounded: 1
- 6 Virginia Tech

  April 16

  Killed: 33, including gunman
- 7 University of Washington

  April 2

  Killed: 2, including gunman

Wounded: 21

#### 2006

- 8 Shepherd University
  Sept. 2, 2006
  Killed:3, including gunman
- 9 Case Western Reserve Univ. May 9, 2003
- Killed: 1 Wounded: 2

  10 University of Arizona

Oct. 28, 2002

Killed: 4, including gunman

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# Arts & Leisure

February 19, 2008 | arts@unogateway.com

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Charley Reed | Arts & Leisure Editor

## 'Phantom' depicts tragic love 'square,' offers something for everyone

REVIEW BY **ELIZABETH DAM** PRODUCTION MANAGER

With the lights lowered, the stage set with dirty drapes and the organ playing that infamous theme, my heart almost stopped beating.

No wonder the "Phantom of the Opera" is the longest running Broadway show in history.

The detailed costumes, intricate set and amazing vocals weren't the only things that captivated my attention that night. There was also a two-ton chandelier, a lifesized elephant and a flawless orchestra that intensified the emotions running through me. Not to mention the aweinspiring pyrotechnics.

If you don't already know, "The Phantom of the Opera" takes place in Paris in 1881. An opera house haunted is by the Phantom, who is not very happy now that the house is under new management.

A ballet dancer named Christine Daae has been raised in the opera house since her father passed away. Despite her current profession, Daae has begun taking secret singing lessons from a mysterious tutor.

However, when her close friendship with her childhood friend, Raoul, who is also the opera house's new benefactor, comes to light, the tutor becomes jealous. His jealousy prompts a face-to-face meeting in which the tutor, named Erik, wears a mask. But little does Daae know Erik and the opera's phantom are one in the same.

This production shows the love triangle, or perhaps square, that exists between the Phantom, Christine, Raoul performance. In the opening scene, the chandelier hanging

ROADWAY ACKOSS AMERICA

above the stage is uncovered and ... BANG! It is lit up and ascends to the ceiling. The fog that flows over the stage and billows into the orchestra pit simulates underground sewage water, a trail leading to the Phantom's lair.

Whenthechandeliereventually fell, it lacked an impressive explosion and appropriate velocity. I remember first seeing "Phantom" as a 10-year old, it was my favorite scene. This time, I felt mere disappointment.

Then there are the pyrotechnics. No one suspects them.

As Raoul walks away from the cemetery after throwing words and threats at the Phantom, flames shoot from the stage and shrink your pupils, turning the Orpheum black. Even after the third time seeing it, my still heart raced and yearned for more.

The music and production were unbelievable. The orchestra was infallible, the organ vibrated

my lungs and the violin playing was so sweet it almost made me cry.

The set alone was almost more impressive than the Opera" were so intense and loud that it brought me into the scene, seizing my emotions and throwing them onto

the stage.

In the acting department, there were times that I wished Christine and Raoul would get over themselves, especially during "All I Ask of You." But, hey, there has to be some romance, too, I guess. I never thought that someone could be as talented a singer as Sara Jean Ford, who plays Christine. She was equally matched by Jason Mills as the Phantom and Greg Mills as Raoul. This trio hit each pitch like Nolan Ryan on his best day.

This "Beauty-and-the-Beast" love story on stage has something for everybody. Girls, you get your romance, and, guys, you get your explosions.

This performance is truly something that should not be passed up.

Performances of "Phantom" run through Sunday, Feb. 24, at the Orpheum Theater. For more information, visit omahaperformingarts.org. To purchase

tickets, call Ticket Omaha at 345-0606, visit Ticketmaster.com or go by the Holland Center Ticket Office in person during regular

#### "Think of Me," "Angel of Music" and "The Phantom of business hours. and the supernatural power of music. Fresh animation brought by Film Streams to big screen in time for Oscars



photo courtesy nytimes.com Above is a scene from the shot film "Madame Tutli Putli."

> NICOLE HIGGINBOTHAM Asst. News/Sports Editor

Using animation as the medium, five short films have been selected by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences to be honored with nominations for a chance to named "Best Animated Short" at this year's Oscars, which air on Feb. 24.

Thanks to Magnolia Pictures and Film Streams, each of these five films can be viewed in their entirety through Feb. 28 at the Ruth Sokolof Theater located on 14th and Webster streets.

The five selected films are "I Met the Walrus,"

"Madame Tutli-Putli," "Meme les Pigeons Vont au Paradis" (Even Pigeons Go to Heaven), "My Love" (Moya Lyubov) and "Peter & the Wolf." They range in style from computer-generated images to traditional pencil-andpaper as well as range in subject from a conversation with John Lennon to a boy defending his animal friends from wolves.

The fact that each of these animated shorts are written in a variety of languages allows the unacquainted viewer to pay more attention to the non-verbal language exchanged between characters.

Each short can expose a multitude of emotions. For example, in "Madame Tutli Putli," directed by Chris Lavis and Maciek Szczerbowski, the main themes are those of isolation and fear from the point of view of an introverted observer on a train.

The main character, who gave the film its namesake, starts out by watching a humorous chess game, moves to observing a child that acts as a symbol of ethnocentric distrust, shies away from a possible romantic situation and ends up hiding in fear as a train gets hijacked.

This short was by far the best in showing the various aspects of talent that the writer has taken in these animations. It shows a unique view on human perception and reactions, taking the viewer to new levels throughout the segment.

The diversity in animation style is also an interesting aspect of this collection. For instance, in "My Love," directed by Alexander Petrov, the animation is like watching a live-action watercolor storybook, while "Meme Les Pigeons Vontar au Paradis," directed by Samuel Tourneux and Simon Vanesse, is made in a "Wallace and Gromit"-esque stop-motion animation style.

This contrast in format helps differentiate the serious and light-hearted shorts.

The attention to detail, when it comes to the movement and tone of the characters, is fantastic as is the quality that, behind the more serious shorts, there is a little bit of humor.

The five Oscar shorts are showing in tandem with this year's live-action short collection at The Ruth Sokolof Theater through Feb. 28. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors and \$4 for Film Streams members.

For more information, visit filmstreams.org and stay tuned for the Feb. 19 issue of the Gateway to read reviews of each of the live shorts.

A&L Editor Charley Reed contributed to this story.

#### From SHOOTING: Page 1

In December 2007, university officials closed the campus after an anonymous threat was found inside a residence hall bathroom. It contained a racial slur and made references to the Virginia Tech tragedy.

"I saw four helicopters circling the area, but I heard others say anywhere up to seven," Bierman continued. "As for police, [there were] dozens. There was just so much confusion. At the time, the only thing people knew was that there was a gunman on campus, and then we were told there was no longer a threat. Overall, people were scared, confused and generally just wanted to get in touch with their families to let them know they were OK."

NIU's student newspaper, Northern Star, spoke with Agent Kevin Cronin of the U.S Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Friday about the incident.

On Feb. 9, Cronin said Kazmierczak legally purchased two of the firearms, a Glock pistol and a Remington 12-gauge shotgun Model 870, from an unidentified gun dealer in Champaign. Kazmierczak carried two additional handguns: a Sig Sauer pistol and a Hi-Point .380 pistol.

Cronin said that they were still trying to track the

weapons' origins. The exact number of rounds the gunman fired is also still under investigation.

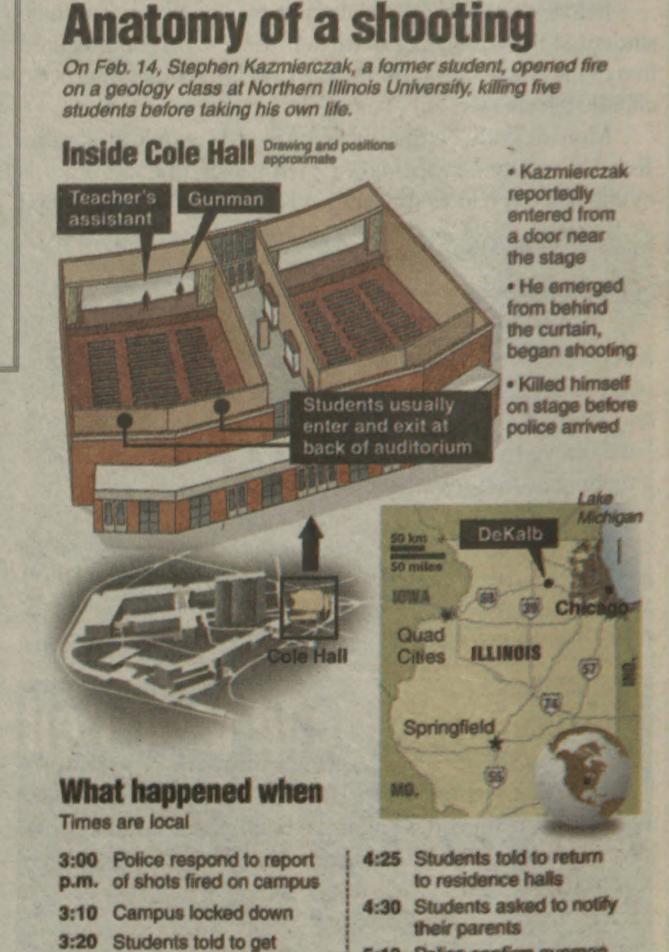
University of Nebraska President James B. Milliken issued a statement on the shooting:

"The University of Nebraska extends its deepest sympathy to the families and friends of the students who were affected by the tragic events of February 14. Our hearts go out to our longtime friend and former colleague, President John Peters, as he helps the campus heal in the wake of this senseless violence."

After the Virginia Tech shootings in April 2007 that left 32 people dead, NIU started an emergency text messaging system that allowed the students to sign up for security related alerts similar to UNO's e2campus alert system.

"I was very impressed with the university and police response. They were on campus within minutes of the incident and did everything they could," Bierman said. "Overall, I do and will continue to feel safe on campus. I think NIU will do everything it can to protect its students."

Classes at NIU will resume on Feb. 25, and counselors have been available to campus members since the incident.



to a safe area

3:50 Victims begin arriving

Source: Northern Illinois University, Chicago Tribune

at hospital

5:12 Police confirm gunman

confirmed dead

7:30 Five victims

shot and killed himself

@ 2008 MCT

# Mavericks split with Falcons

Hockey in tight positioning race after two-point weekend

CHARLEY REED A&L EDITOR

It was the Falcons that got the monkey off their back this weekend as the Civic Auditorium no doubt lost a bit of its luster among the UNO hockey faithful.

Amidst talk of the infamous 2000 playin game the Bowling Green State Falcons, the same team UNO beat to secure its firstever berth in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association playoffs, cost the Mavs a chance to all-but-secure fifth place in this year's standings.

Even though the weekend series ended in a split - a 5-3 win for the Mavericks (14-14-4 overall, 11-11-4 in CCHA play) on Friday and a 3-1 win for the Falcons (15-15-0, 12-12-0) on Saturday - for Bowling Green, it was a victory, redemption and a catharsis all rolled into one.

Not only did UNO upset the Falcons in 2000, but until Saturday's win, UNO was 9-0 against Bowling Green with four of those wins coming in the 2006 and 2007 CCHA playoffs.

Playing without their captain and scoring leader Bryan Marshall, who was injured in pre-game warm-ups, fellow seniors and line mates Brandon Scero and Mick Lawrence played a big role Friday night.

"[Scero] talked before the game; he told guys that the guys needed to step up, seniors particularly needed to step up and carry the weight, and I thought they did a real good job of it," said Head Coach Mike Kemp.

Scero and Lawrence accounted for six points in UNO's Friday night win. Scero's power-play goal at 13:26 of the third period proved to be the game winner.

"With [Marshall] going down, [Kemp]

pulled me and Mick aside before the game and said 'you know, this is where you guys need to step it up, show us why you're here," Scero said.

In addition to Lawrence and Scero, players like juniors Dan Charleston and Tomas Klempa, sophomore Eddie Del Grosso and freshman Joey Martin each played key roles in the game. At the very least, it was a gut check for the team, who will be losing its top three scorers at the end of the year.

Luckily for the Mavs, Marshall's injury should not stop him from playing this weekend against Northern Michigan, according to Kemp. The games will be the team's last of the regular season.

The 5-3 win on Friday was an important two points for the Mavericks, but the similarly-talented Falcons proved they wouldn't go down without a fight.

Not surprisingly, Lawrence and Scero were featured prominently in the Maverick's opening goal on Saturday. Both the opening goal with only 45 seconds left in the first period. The goal was his second of the weekend.

Unfortunately for UNO, Martin's goal would be the only one for the Mavericks that evening.

Filling in for junior Jimmy Spratt, freshman Nick Eno turned away each of UNO's 23 subsequent shots on goal. Eno saved 38 of 39 shots overall for a .974 save percentage.

UNO's Kaufmann was not as lucky.

John Mazzei opened the second period with a goal to tie the game. Derek Whitmore, BGSU's leading scorer, then notched his 25th and 26th goals of the season at 16:15 of the second period and 0:41 of the third period respectively.

"It's disappointing in the sense that I thought we came out and had a great first period, and we just didn't capitalize on our opportunities," Kemp said. "They took advantage of their opportunities and we didn't."

Even though UNO had clinched home ice for the playoffs on Friday night, Saturday's loss to Bowling Green made the scramble for who they will

play all that more interesting.

Currently, UNO is sitting in fifth place with 26 points, while BGSU and Ferris State are tied with 24. The final home playoff berth were credited with an assist as Martin got is currently owned by Northern Michigan, UNO's opponent this week, with 22 points.

> "It's going to be interesting down the stretch here," Kemp said. "[It's] the last four games for those people, our last two, and then what happens in the first round of the playoffs should be very, very interesting."

With two games left and a four-point

photo by Michelle Bishop

### 'Spratt, sieve!'

Tomas Klempa slides the puck past Bowling Green goalie Jimmy Spratt to put the Mavs up 3-2 during Friday's 5-3 win. Bowling Green bounced back to win Saturday's game 3-1. UNO will travel to Marquette, Mich., next weekend for a two-game series at Northern Michigan. For more photos from the Bowling Green series, visit our Web site at unogateway.com.

> lead over their rivals, an empty weekend against NMU would erase UNO's lead. However, a four-point weekend for UNO would give them some breathing room.

> In either case, Kemp isn't worried about what's out of his control.

> "All we can control is what we do next weekend going to Northern Michigan," he said. "That's all we've got to worry about."

> Photo Editor Michelle Bishop contributed to this report.

## Reactivated track stars sprint to pair of titles in South Dakota Open

SEAN OWENS STAFF WRITER

The UNO track team once again posted title performances as they competed at the University of South Dakota John Dalton Open Saturday. Junior sprinter Molly Belling, in her return from a three-week rest due to a foot injury, wasted no time in showing her dominance on the track.

Belling took the 60-meter title on Saturday by posting a time of 7.74. Despite this run being her first competitive event since her reactivation, she managed to record the third fastest time in the North Central Conference this season.

"Molly hurt her foot in the Graphic Edge Open a few weeks ago in South Dakota," said UNO track Head Coach Steve Smith.

"She ran well in her return, but she has run faster. She actually holds the 60-meter dome record in South Dakota with a time of 7.56."

In addition to the 60-meter title, freshman sprinter/jumper Shana Brown added the long jump title to UNO's accomplishments on Saturday. Brown was also making her return from a nagging injury. In her return to action, Brown produced a leap of 5.65-meters to win the long jump event. The mark is the second longest in the NCC this season.

Finishing in second place behind Brown in the event was junior jumper Ashley Yates, who posted a distance of 5.33. In all, four of the top eight long jump finishers were Mavericks.

"The girls all improved in their events,"

See TRACK: Page 8

## Wrestling analysis: Fear the Mavericks

Can you hear that rumble? It's not a train. It's not thunder, a tomado or an avalanche not a natural disaster of any kind.

That sound you hear is a charging herd of Mavericks, and they are healthier, hungrier and more dangerous than ever.

UNO wrestlers have been embarrassing hobbling folks. Since into Minneapolis, Minn., and losing to Division III Augsburg, the Mavericks have rattled off five straight dual meet victories. Three of those matches were victories. conference Three were against Top 5 programs. All were illustrations of what can happen when the most talented wrestling roster in

Division II starts competing at full strength at just the right time.

UNO most recently disposed of North Central Conference foe Augustana 43-3 under the lights of Sapp Fieldhouse. Fourtythree ... to three.

No. 1 Cody Garcia, No. 1 Todd Meneely and No. 4 Ross Taplin all recorded pins in the grotesquely lopsided affair with the Vikings. UNO was without Jacob Marrs, the

> nation's No. 2 at 197 pounds. Consequently, the Auggie's only win came in the 197-pound match.

> The 43-3 massacre was UNO's largest margin of victory since the undefeated 2005-06 National Championship team thumped St. Cloud State 53-0.

The Mavericks will host Division I Northern Iowa at Sapp Fieldhouse Thursday, Feb. 21, at 7 p.m. to end their regular season. UNO will look to maintain their momentum, and their health, in Thursday's

dual as they prepare for the North Regional Tournament. Regionals will take place Sunday, March 2, in Mankato, Minn.

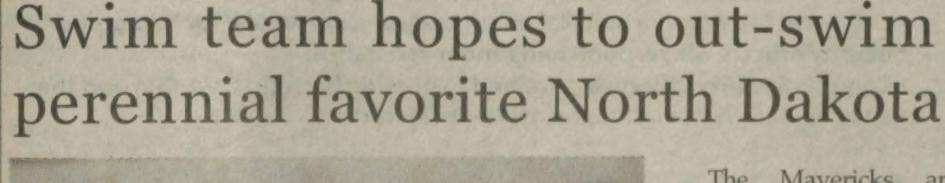




photo by Bill Wendl

Tessa Edwards waits to leap into the pool for the 1600meter relay race against Iowa State earlier this season.

SCOTT STEWART EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

UNO will host the final swimming and diving North Central Conference championship meet this weekend in the Health, Physical Education and Recreation building pool.

Recently, UNO had non-conference success against Kearney on Feb. 2 and Northern Iowa on Jan. 19. The Mavs dropped two conference meetings against South Dakota in January and December, being edged out 136-162 and 123-167, respectively.

Before that, though, the team placed first in the Mutual of Omaha Invitational, defeating Kearney, Colorado-Boulder, Grinnell, Colorado School of Mines and the UNL Swim Club.

The Mavericks are looking to overtake perennial champion, North Dakota, who have had strong showings this season with first place team wins at St. Cloud State on Nov. 17 and at the Stevens Point Invite in Wisconsin on Jan. 19.

Since 1981, the Fighting Sioux have won all but three NCC women's swimming and diving championships. North Dakota dropped the 1981 contest to South Dakota State, split the 1991 contest

with Northern Colorado and was edged out of the championship by a mere 1.5 points by the Mavs in 2005.

However, UNO's 2005 victory over North Dakota was no fluke: the Mavs have finished No. 2 in the NCC since 2002, except for the 2005 championship.

This year's NCC championship meet will consist of four days of preliminary and final contests. Preliminaries begin at 10 a.m. each day - Feb. 21 through Feb. 24 - with finals taking place those evenings at 6 p.m. An awards ceremony is scheduled at the end of Sunday's finals.

A complete list of the order of events for the four-day championship meet held at the HPER pool can be found at the Gateway's Web site, unogateway.com.



# Campus Security

**Eppley Administration Building, Rm 100** 

# Help Us to Help You!

#### Security

· Buildings are patrolled 24 hours daily.

#### **Personal Safety Checks**

• Individuals who may be working alone outside normal hours are encouraged to contact Campus Security. Security officers will periodically check on your safety while you are here.

#### Extras

• Campus Security provides assistance to motorists 24 hours daily, to jump-start your vehicle, open a locked vehicle and change a tire in certain situations. For vehicles on campus only.

#### **Emergency Messages**

• Should your family or friends need to have an emergency message delivered while you are in class or on campus, have them contact Campus Security. Emergency messages will be delivered in case of a medical emergency or a matter of life or death.

#### **Personal Escorts**

• The escort service is available 24-7 for individuals on campus. Contact Campus Security to arrange for an escort.

#### **Emergency Procedures**

- The University emergency number is 554-2911.
- There are telephones on campus that can be used to report an emergency.

#### Suspicious Person or Crimes in Progress

• Should you witness a crime in progress, or other emergency, use the campus emergency number 4-2911.

#### **Personal Threats and Harassment**

• Disruptive behavior on campus will not be tolerated. Threats or acts of violence should be reported to Campus Security. If the act appears to represent an immediate threat or harm to an individual, it should be reported at once to Campus Security or 911.

#### Evacuations

• Faculty and staff should assist with room and building evacuations, and be aware of those needing special assistance. All students should become familiar with the designated rally points for their buildings, which are listed on the Campus Security website www.unomaha.edu/security under "Emergency Procedures."

#### **Alert System**

- A system to help facilitate emergency communications has been installed at the Center, Dodge and Pacific locations. Announcements are distributed from Campus Security to building public address systems or speakers located in building corridors. When announcements are made, strobe lights will flash to notify the hearing impaired to seek assistance.
- The system will be particularly helpful during tornado warnings. The announcement will alert building occupants to seek shelter and again later when the warning has ended. The alert system also can be used to announce University closings, confirm evacuations for fire or chemical release or other emergency conditions.
- More information on campus emergency procedures can be found on the Campus Security website.

#### Parking & Traffic

- Shuttle service is provided from the Pacific location lots 5,6,7 and 9 permit required.
- Remote parking is provided from the Crossroads Mall Parking Structure at 72 and Cass Streets no permit required.
- Contact Campus Security for a shuttle schedule and remote parking locations.

#### Lost and Found

• Campus Security maintains the lost and found system. Contact Campus Security for lost items.

#### Fingerprints

• The Campus Security Department provides a fingerprinting service for individuals who require fingerprints for local, state and federal positions and for children of students, staff, faculty and alumni.

#### **Blue light Emergency Phones**

• Blue Light Emergency Phones are located throughout campus. Use the phones to report emergencies or contact Campus Security for assistance.

#### Operation I.D.

- Your stereo tape deck, calculator or other personal belongings may be engraved to aid in finding lost or stolen property.
- Stop by the Campus Security Office and check out an engraver and instructions to engrave your property.

#### Medical Emergency/Personal Injury

- Call 4-2911 to report a medical emergency or a personal injury. Campus Security officers will respond and render assistance.
- Campus Security officers are trained to provide basic first aid, CPR and the use of an AED (Automatic External Defibrillator).

#### **Personal Property**

• The University is not responsible for personal property. Individuals are responsible for safeguarding their own property. Loss of personal property should be reported to Campus Security.

#### **Theft or Damaged Property**

• Should you have items stolen or damaged, report the incident as soon as possible to Campus Security.

#### **Incident Reporting**

- Incidents requiring immediate action include: fire, environmental spills, medical conditions, property damage, disruptive behavior and crimes in progress.
- Persons involved with or observing these types of incidents should call Campus Security at 554-2911. Campus Security will dispatch officers to the scene, and if required, contact 911.
- If you call 911 directly, also notify Campus Security to help coordinate the response and expedite travel to the emergency scene. Emergency information provided by the caller should include: building, floor, room number, call back number and nature of the emergency.

as MSU clinches share of NCC crown women lose two on Think Pink' week

KEVIN CLEMENS SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The UNO men's basketball team split last week's road trip with a victory over St. Cloud State, 88-66, Thursday and a loss to Minnesota State, 94-82, Saturday afternoon.

UNO entered the trip without a road victory within the North Central Conference since January 2006. After the split, the Mavericks moved to 19-5 on the season and 5-4 within the NCC.

"[The split] puts us tied for third with St. Cloud State, and we still got three NCC games left--with two of them versus teams that we have lost to earlier in the year," UNO Head Coach Derrin Hansen said.

In the victory over St. Cloud State on Thursday, Feb. 14, all five members of UNO's starting lineup finished the game in double figures.

UNO point guard Andrew Bridger had 25 points, eight assists and six rebounds against the home Huskies. Michael Jenkins was second on the team in scoring with 24 points, while connecting on 12 of his 14 free throws.

Senior Jerry Bennett was forced into early foul trouble, yet finished with 14 points. Denny Johnston had 15 points, and Justin Peterson had 11 while ripping down eight boards for the Mavs.

In Saturday night's loss to Minnesota State, UNO was forced to deal with early foul trouble and good shooting from MSU. The game was close in the first half, but UNO was unable to keep up with Minnesota State in the end.

The Mankato Mavericks shot over 60 percent in the second half.

Saturday's game featured six ties and seven lead changes. The Mavericks were forced to deal with a 9-2 run to end the first half. Still, the Mavericks trailed first-place Minnesota State by just one at the break.

The second half was a similar story

for UNO. Minnesota State built a cushion with a 15-5 run around the eight-minute mark, leaving the visiting Mavericks down 73-64. UNO was outscored in the second half 56-45.

After the game, Hansen split the blame between the team's offensive and defensive performances.

"I thought a little bit of both," Hansen said. "Even though we scored 82 points in the game, we just needed to get a few more stops on defense."

UNO was led in scoring by Tyler Albers, who came off the bench to score a team high 19 points. Andrew Bridger added 16 points and three assists. Mitch Albers and Johnston had 11 each for the Mavericks.

continued Peterson his rebounding streak with 10 boards in the game. Bennett had nine points and eight rebounds in the loss.

"I thought we got to the rim tonight but didn't finish at the basket as well in the game as we normally do, and we played a great team tonight," Hansen said.

With the win, Minnesota State assured itself at least a portion of the NCC title. MSU improved to 20-5 overall and 9-1 within the conference. Jake Morrow led five MSU players in double figures with 20 points while Atila Santos, who was coming off NCC player-of-theweek honors for his 26-point, 21-rebound performance against Minnesota Duluth, added 16.

Coming into the final NCC games of the season, Hansen is certainly holding his seniors in high regard. Johnston currently ranks second in the NCC in minutes played, while his senior counterpart, Bennett, is No. 7 in the conference.

The Mavericks are on the road again this weekend as they face North Dakota in Grand Forks, N.D., on Saturday, Feb. 23. UNO will be back at home Feb. 28 as they host Minnesota Duluth in the Sapp Fieldhouse.

**BRETT OSTRONIC** SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The UNO women's basketball team tussled with, and inevitably lost to, a duo of Minnesota foes this week. The Mavs have now lost three games in a row and eight of their last 10 by an average margin of 17 points per loss.

UNO fell to the Huskies of St. Cloud State Thursday night, 70-63, despite cashing in on a season-high 50 percent of their attempts from behind the arc.

Early on, the Mavs were diverting from their usual tactic of attacking the basket. UNO attempted just five free throws in the opening 20 minutes, a season-low.

However, the Mavericks found a way to eliminate turnovers in the first half against SCSU to hang tough. UNO committed a season-low first half total of seven, and the Huskies lead by just four at the break.

Late in the second half, a desperate effort from the Mavs came up short.

An 11-point SCSU lead dwindled to three after a 10-2 UNO run. Then the last four points of the game were scored by the Huskies, and the Mavs were left wondering what could have been.

SCSU improved their record to 11-13 overall, 3-6 in the North Central Conference. Double-doubles from first-year guard Talisha Barlow and senior forward Kayla Rengel led the Huskies to victory.

Barlow scored a game-high 21 points and added 10 rebounds. Rengel scored 11 points and grabbed 10 rebounds.

Offensively for UNO, junior point guard

Lindsey Klug had four assists and scored a season-high 13 points, nearly doubling her conference average. Klug was one of three Mavs who scored in double figures.

Junior forward Cayla Hargrove scored a teamhigh 14 points to go with two rebounds and one steal.

Two days later, the Mavs were back on the hardwood, visiting the league's other Mavericks - Minnesota State, Mankato.

UNO's season-high 26 turnovers proved to be a major factor in the 98-61 loss to Mankato.

Nearly two minutes after the opening tip-off, the Mavs were already in catch-up mode, trailing 10-0.

By the 7-minute mark in the first half, UNO's turnover-to-point ratio was nearly even. The Mavs had thrown the ball away 14 times and had only 16 points. Mankato took advantage of the extra opportunities and went into the locker room at halftime with a 14-point lead.

Offensively in the first half, Hargrove led UNO with a team-high 13 points, in one stretch scoring eight in a row, and junior guard Mary Brown chipped in nine points. The UNO bench outscored the starters 23-10.

The unique number showed quality production from the subs, but raised questions about the starting five.

An early second half run by the Mavs was in vain, though, as MSU quickly responded with three straight 3-pointers. All hope for a comeback was shattered.

Five-foot-8-inch junior guard Heather Johnson scored a game-high 25 points to lead the way for MSU-Mankato, who improved their record to 18-7 overall and 4-6 in NCC play. Six-foot senior center Liz Trauger manufactured a double-double, scoring 14 points and pulling down 10 rebounds for the home Mavericks.

UNO, now 16-9 overall, 2-7 in the NCC, have an entire week to work out the kinks until they head to Grand Forks, N.D., to take on NCC No. 2 North Dakota. The Fighting Sioux defeated UNO 86-55 in Omaha on Jan. 26.

# Snow storm: Weather interrupts UNO baseball's opening road series

SCOTT STEWART EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

With a winter storm moving across the Midwest this weekend, bringing several inches of snow across much of the region, this season's opening series with Regis University in Denver was cancelled.

The games will not be made up. Instead, the Mavs will open their series on Friday, Feb. 22, at Fort Hays State in Hays, Kan.

From there, UNO will compete in the Holiday Inn Classic in Warrensburg, Mo., with Emporia State, Central Missouri and Washburn.

Mayerick baseball will then tour Maryville, Mo., and St. Joseph, Mo., for mid-week challenges Northwest Missouri State and Missouri Western.

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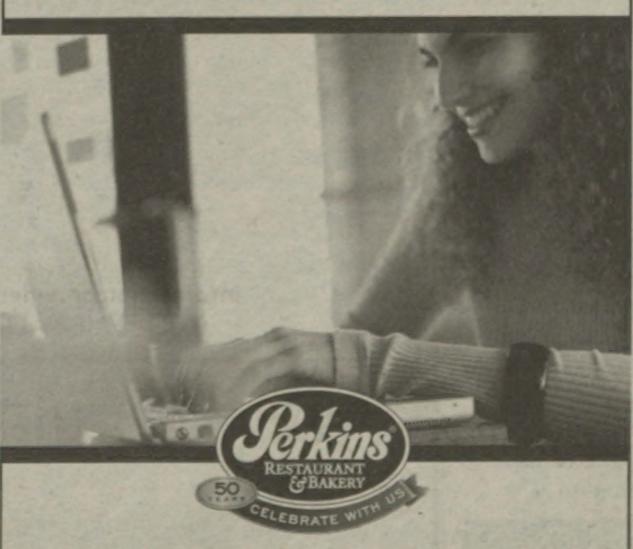
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That weekend, March 8 and March

9, the team will travel to Topeka, Kan., for back-to-back doubleheaders against Washburn.

UNO will return Omaha for it's first home game of the season March 11, playing Northwest Missouri State at 1 p.m. at Aksarben Field, which is located at the former Chili Greens property.

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#### From TRACK: Page 5

Smith said. "It was a pretty good meet, I thought. We left a few girls home this week, but we did well."

Athletes not competing this week were junior sprinter Pinar Saka, freshman sprinter Kayla Koepke and freshman sprinter Anja

Puc. Saka and Puc didn't make the trip because they had already posted NCAA qualifying times, while Koepke's absence at the meet was unknown to the Gateway at press time.

The three are scheduled to be reactivated for next week's event in Lincoln.

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The UNO track team, though young, expects to compete at a high pace in the NCC and NCAA Division II indoor championships. With members of the team already posting qualifying times, the opportunity to win is very real for the track program.

Both the NCC and NCAA D-II championships will be held in Mankato, Minn., with the NCCs beginning on Feb. 29 and the NCAAs on March 14th. The Mavericks will continue their pursuit of a championship on Feb. 22 as they travel to Lincoln for the Prairie Wolf Invitational.

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UNO Contact Campus Security, EAB 100, 554-2648. Turned-in items can be

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